To: R9-WTR22[R9-WTR22@epa.gov]; Keydel, Susan[Keydel.Susan@epa.gov]; Gholson,

Greg[Gholson.Greg@epa.gov]; Mitschele, Becky[Mitschele.Becky@epa.gov]

From: Yelensky, Erica

Sent: Wed 9/13/2017 8:37:54 PM

Subject: FW: Santa Monica Beach Restoration Pilot Project - Year 1 Report

SaMo Beach Project Year 1 Report FINAL Aug2017.pdf

Hi everyone,

The Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program (A.K.A. the Bay Foundation) just finished their first year of monitoring and implementing the Santa Monica Beach Restoration Pilot Project. Here are the links to the <u>report</u> and <u>project website</u>.

Quick project overview: the NEP seeded a 3 acre area at Santa Monica beach. Project objectives include evaluating increased protection from sea level rise and erosion for coastal infrastructure and residences. The site also provide a vital refuge for coastal vegetation species, invertebrates, and birds.

Below are links to local news articles published about the project.

Santa Monica Beach Combats Rising Sea Levels with 'Re-Wilding' Program

Neighborhoods.com - May 24, 2017

After starting its coastal "re-wilding" project last year, the city of Santa Monica and The Bay Foundation have officially completed seeding for their Wild Beach Restoration Pilot Program. The program aims to restore approximately three acres of Santa Monica Beach's north end, returning coastal plant and wildlife to the beach that have been eliminated, and protecting the beach from the effects of climate change.

The site still requires years of careful monitoring, but there has already been a noticeable difference in the ecosystem after the seeding of four types of California dune plant species....READ MORE

Santa Monica Beach Goes Wild

Santa Monica Daily Press - May 11, 2017

The Bay Foundation and the City have completed the Wild Beach Restoration Pilot Program along a section of local beach and officials hope the program will showcase environmental restoration in the area.

Dean Kubani, Chief Sustainability Officer for the City of Santa Monica has been excited for this pilot project since it began. "It is a great example of a multi-benefit project that has the potential to provide habitat for many beach species, allow the public to interact with a natural, living beach environment and will help safeguard against the impacts of climate induced sea level rise and storm surges," said Kubani....READ MORE

Rare Snowy Plovers Return to Nest, Lay Eggs on Popular LA County Beaches

Daily Breeze - May 10, 2017

For the first time in 68 years, several pairs of an endangered shorebird have laid eggs in nests [including in Santa Monica] built in the sand of three heavily visited beaches in Los Angeles County. [The nest at Santa Monica beach was destroyed by high winds.]

...Five months ago, the [Bay] Foundation created a garden-like restoration area on three acres of Santa Monica beach, planting some 40,000 native plant seedlings. About 10,000 sprouted, said Tom Ford, the foundation's executive director.

... "This is a sign that, against all odds, western snowy plovers are making a comeback and we really need the cooperation of beachgoers to help give them the space they need to nest and raise their young," he said in a statement....READ MORE

Best,

Erica

Disclaimer: This message was written with voice activated software. It may contain errors. Some of them might be interesting. Observe the context and the meaning will, hopefully, be obvious.

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The Bay Foundation is pleased to provide you with an electronic copy of our first year monitoring and implementation report for the Santa Monica Beach Restoration Pilot Project (pdf attached or electronic link here). We want to thank each and every one of you for your partnership or support of this important pilot project for our region.
We are so pleased with the successes of this project, and the overwhelming public support that it has received. Please find details in the attached report, and don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments. Additionally, you may find interesting information on the <u>project's webpage</u> .
Thank you!
Cheers,
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